

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/433,144,
filed on December 13, 2002 U.S. Patent No. 7,115,084, issued on October 3, 2006, by
Chen, et al., entitled, “REPLACEABLE FUSER MEMBER”.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

This invention relates to a method for producing a replaceable fuser member. The replaceable fuser member includes a thin, seamless or welded high temperature nickel sleeve, a base cushion positioned around the sleeve and an outside low surface energy coating applied over the base cushion elastomer layer. The sleeve is replaceable by installation on a mandrel positioned in a fuser section of an electrophotographic copying machine. The sleeve is produced by a process including mounting the high temperature nickel sleeve on a mandrel ~~having a coefficient of thermal expansion closely approximating that of the sleeve~~, thereafter applying a coating of primer on the outside of the sleeve, applying a coat of a base cushion elastomer around the outside of the sleeve, curing and machining the base cushion elastomer to a desired thickness and thereafter applying a coating of a topcoat layer over the base cushion and curing the topcoat layer to produce the replaceable fuser member.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

According to the present invention, it has been found that a superior replaceable fuser roller member adapted to be positioned on a machine mandrel in a fuser system of an electrophotographic machine to function as a roller in the electrophotographic machine is produced by a method including: mounting a high temperature nickel sleeve having an inside and an outside and a coefficient of thermal expansion on a mandrel having an outside, being configured to receive the sleeve over the outside of the mandrel and having a coefficient of thermal expansion equal to from ~~about 80 greater than 100 percent~~ to about 120 percent of the coefficient of thermal expansion of the sleeve in a temperature range from about 20 to about 325°C; applying a coating of a primer including a silane coupling agent containing epoxies to the outside of the sleeve; applying a coating of a base cushion elastomer around the outside of the sleeve; curing the base cushion elastomer; machining the coating of the cured base cushion elastomer to a desired thickness; applying a topcoat layer over the machined coating of the base cushion; curing the topcoat layer; and, removing the replaceable fuser member from the mandrel.

Please replace the paragraphs beginning on page 5, line 1, with the following amended paragraphs:

~~The present invention further includes: an improvement in a method for producing a replaceable fuser member adapted to be positioned on a machine mandrel in a fuser system of an electrophotographic machine to function as a roller in the electrophotographic machine by mounting a high temperature nickel sleeve on a mandrel configured to receive the sleeve over the outside of the mandrel; applying a coating of a primer including a silane coupling agent containing epoxies to the outside of the sleeve; applying a coating of a base cushion elastomer around the outside of the sleeve; curing the base cushion elastomer; machining the cured base cushion elastomer to a desired thickness; applying a topcoat layer over the machined base~~

eushion; curing the topcoat layer and removing the replaceable fuser member from the mandrel; the improvement including: forming the mandrel of a metal having a coefficient of thermal expansion equal to from about 80 to about 120 percent of the coefficient of thermal expansion of the sleeve in a temperature range from about 20 to about 325°C.

The use of a metal mandrel having a coefficient of thermal expansion equal to from about 80 greater than 100 percent to about 120 percent of the coefficient of thermal expansion of the sleeve permits curing the cushion layer and the topcoat layer at temperatures up to at least 300°C without distortion of the sleeve by unacceptable expansion of the mandrel or loosening of the sleeve by greater thermal expansion of the sleeve than the mandrel. This results in the production of a replaceable fuser member having a very closely controlled inside diameter of the sleeve that facilitates closely mating engagement with the machine mandrel in the fuser system.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 26, with the following amended paragraph:

According to the present invention, a method of producing a replaceable fuser roller member adapted to be positioned on a machine mandrel in a fuser system of an electrophotographic machine to function as a roller in the electrophotographic machine is provided. The method including: mounting a high temperature nickel sleeve having an inside and an outside and a coefficient of thermal expansion on a mandrel having an inside and an outside, being configured to receive the sleeve over the outside of the mandrel and having a coefficient of thermal expansion equal to from about 80 greater than 100 percent to about 120 percent of the coefficient of thermal expansion of the sleeve in a temperature range from about 20 to about 325°C; applying a coating of a primer including a silane coupling agent containing epoxies to the outside of the sleeve; applying a coating of a base cushion elastomer around the outside of the sleeve; curing the base cushion elastomer; machining the coating of the cured base cushion elastomer to a desired thickness;

applying a topcoat layer over the machined coating of the base cushion elastomer; curing the topcoat layer; and, removing the replaceable fuser member from the mandrel.

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 21 as shown:

~~Desirably, the machine mandrel is of the same metal as the sleeve. This is desirable so that the thermal expansion of the sleeve and the machine mandrel is closely matched. While some variation in thermal expansion can be tolerated, it is highly desirable that the expansion of the sleeve and the machine mandrel be approximately the same.~~